Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LISBON 01419 051257Z

70
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OPIC-03 SAM-01

SAJ-01 DHA-02 ACDA-05 SCCT-01 AF-06 /078 W
---------- 011553
R 051150Z MAR 76
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6233
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMCONSUL OPORTO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA
USMISSION NATO
DIA WASHDC
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 1419

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, PO
SUBJECT: THE MILITARY SPEAKS; NEW HINTS OF SPLIT

REF: LISBON 1393 (DTG 041437Z MAR 76)

SUMMARY: RECENT STATEMENTS BY MILITARY FIGURES CONTAINED NEW HINTS OF A POSSIBLY DEEPENING SPLIT WITHIN THE MILITARY BETWEEN CONSERVATIVE ELEMENTS AND THOSE ASSOCIATED WITH FONMIN MELO ANTUNES. END SUMMARY.

1. MELO ANTUNES: FONMIN MELO ANTUNES, INTERVIEWED BY "LA REPUBLICA" OF ROME MARCH 3 ON ROUTE TO IRAN, STATED THAT "THERE IS NO PLACE FOR A TRADITIONAL SOCIAL DEMOCRACY IN PORTUGAL; BUT, THERE IS A LARGE PLACE FOR A DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REVOLUTION." IN THE INTERVIEW WHICH WAS PUBLISHED
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LISBON 01419 051257Z

IN LISBON PRESS OF MARCH 4, ANTUNES SAID THAT "CONDITIONS

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

CONTINUE TO EXIST FOR CONSTRUCTING SOCIALIST STRUCTURES
AFTER THE ELECTIONS, BUT WE WILL HAVE TO PRESENT NEW
PROPOSALS." ASKED WHERE HIS SUPPORT WOULD COME FROM,
ANTUNES REPLIED THAT THE CONSTITUTION, "A VERY ADVANCED
DOCUMENT, FORMULATED AT JUST THE RIGHT MOMENT, PROVIDED
THE GUIDELINES." HE SAID: "THERE ARE RIGHTIST ELEMENTS
IN THE ARMED FORCES, BUT THERE IS ALSO A SIGNIFICANT LEFTIST
GROUP OF YOUNG CAPTAINS WHO CAN PLAY AN IMPORTANT POLITICAL ROLE."

2. VASCO LOURENCO: LISBON MILITARY REGION CHIEF VASCO
LOURENCO TOLD THE PRESS MARCH 4 THAT THERE WILL ABSOLUTELY
NOT BE AN ARMED FORCES CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT. HE SAID
THAT SUCH A CANDIDACY WOULD "NOT BE VIABLE," AND CONTINUED
"I FIND ALL THESE AFFIRMATIONS ABOUT AN ARMED FORCES
CANDIDATE QUITE STRANGE." ASKED IF HE WERE REFERRING TO
AIR FORCE CHIEF MORAIS DA SILVA'S RECENT SPEECH, LOURENCO
SAID HE WAS, BUT DECLINED TO "ENTER INTO POLEMICS WHICH COULD
CAUSE PROBLEMS AND SPLITS." (REFTEL).

3. ROSA COUTINHO: LEFTIST FORMER REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL
MEMBER AND EX-HIGH COMMISSIONER IN ANGOLA ADM ROSA
COUTINHO, IN AN INTERVIEW PUBLISHED MARCH 4 IN THE LEFTIST-
LINING "DIARIO DE LISBOA," CRITICIZED THE POSITION TAKEN
BY SOME PORTUGUESE, INCLUDING THE PS, THAT GOP SHOULD HAVE
MADE RECOGNITION OF THE MPLA CONTINGENT ON CONCLUSION OF
PRIOR ACCORDS GUARANTEEING PORTUGUESE INTERESTS IN
ANGOLA AS "IMPRACTICAL." ASKED TO COMMENT ON CDS AND MRPP
EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN OVER SOVIET INFLUENCE IN ANGOLA,
HE ACCUSED THESE PARTIES OF "VOTE-SEEKING" AND LABELED
THEIR VIEWS "EXTREMELY PREJUDICIAL TO PORTUGUESE INTERESTS."

4. COMMENT: MELO ANTUNES JUXTAPOSITION OF RIGHTIST AND
LEFTIST FACTIONS WITHIN THE ARMED FORCES AND LOURENCO'S
VEILED CRITICISM OF MORAIS DA SILVA ARE FURTHER INDICATIONS
OF A POSSIBLY DEEPENING SPLIT WITHIN THE ARMED FORCES
IN GENERAL AND THE RC IN PARTICULAR. AN ARMY MAJOR ASSIGNED
TO THE ARMED FORCES GENERAL STAFF TOLD EMBOFF MARCH 4
THAT MORAIS DA SILVA SPEECH WAS BUT MOST RECENT AND BEST
PUBLICIZED INCIDENT IN GROWING CAMPAIGN BY CONSERVATIVE
ELEMENTS WITHIN THE ARMED FORCES, LED BY THE AIR FORCE, TO
CONFIDENTIAL

ISOLATE AND, IF POSSIBLE, REMOVE FROM POSITIONS OF RES-
PONSIBILITY, FIGURES SUCH AS MELO ANTUNES, VITOR CRESPO,
AND VITOR ALVES.
CARLUCCI

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

NNN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESIDENT, POLITICAL MILITARY RELATIONS, PRESS COMMENTS, NATIONAL ELECTIONS, ELECTION CANDIDATES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LISBON01419
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760085-0387
From: LISBON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760391/aaaadcfr.tel
Line Count: 111
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 LISBON 1393
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GarlanWA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 OCT 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 OCT 2003 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <30 OCT 2003 by GarlanWA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THE MILITARY SPEAKS; NEW HINTS OF SPLIT
TAGS: PINT, PO, (ANTUNES, MELO), (LOURENCO, VASCO), (COUTINHO, ROSA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006